

Message Text

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43

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-15

USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-15 AID-20 DRC-01 /147 W

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R 032115Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0000

INFO USCINCSO

AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO

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USCINCSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ELAB, PINT, PINS, AR

SUBJECT: PERON MEETING WITH LABOR LEADERS

SUMMARY. IN OCTOBER 2 MEETING WITH LABOR LEADERS PERON GAVE INSTRUCTIONS TO ORGANIZED LABOR TO PURGE ITSELF OF LEFTIST ELEMENTS. HE STRESSED THE IMPORTANCE OF LABOR WITHIN THE PERONIST MOVEMENT AND STATED HE WOULD HOLD WEEKLY MEETINGS WITH CGT AFTER ASSUMING PRESIDENCY. END SUMMARY.

1. IN OCTOBER 2 MEETING WITH CGT AND 62 ORGANIZATIONS OFFICIALS, ATTENDED ALSO BY MINLABOR OTERO AND FEDERAL POLICE CHIEF INIGUEZ, PERON EXPRESSED HIS VIEWS ON LABOR'S ROLE AFTER OCT 12, AND "GAVE SPECIFIC ORDERS FOR UNION LEADERS TO FIGHT BY ALL AVAILABLE MEANS MARXIST AND OTHER EXTREMIST INFILTRATION INTO THE PERONIST MOVEMENT". THE MEETING WAS CLOSED TO REPORTERS AND PERON GAVE NO PRESS INTERVIEW; HOWEVER, AN OFFICIAL CGT COMMUNIQUE STATED THAT PERON QUALIFIED ORGANIZED LABOR AS THE "BACKBONE" OF THE PERONIST MOVEMENT, AND THAT HE INTENDED TO HOLD WEEKLY MEETINGS WITH THE CGT AFTER ASSUMING THE PRESIDENCY. COMMUNIQUE ALSO STATED THAT PERON EXPRESSED HIS SATISFACTION FOR ATTITUDE

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ASSUMED BY CGT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE IN NOMINATING SUBSEC GEN

ROMERO TO REPLACE MURDERED SEC GEN RUCCI, AS "THAT ATTITUDE INDICATES THAT THERE WILL BE CONTINUITY OF THOUGHT AND ACTION".

2. DETAILS OF PERON'S INSTRUCTIONS ON MEANS BY WHICH LABOR SHOULD PURGE ITSELF OF EXTREMISTS HAVE BEEN CLOSELY GUARDED AND NOT RELEASED TO CGT AFFILIATED ORGANIZATIONS. A NATIONAL UNION SECRETARY GENERAL, WHO IS ALSO A MEMBER OF THE CGT CONFEDERATED CENTRAL COMMITTEE, EXPRESSED TO LABATT HIS CONCERN THAT PURGE COULD DISSOLVE INTO A WITCH-HUNT, AND HE PREDICTED CONSIDERABLE TURMOIL WITHIN THE MOVEMENT AS A RESULT OF THE INSTRUCTIONS.

3. COMMENT. PERON'S MEETING WITH THE CGT FOLLOWED BY ONE DAY A MEETING WITH PROVINCIAL GOVERNORS IN WHICH HE GAVE EXPLICIT INSTRUCTIONS FOR A PURGE OF MARXISTS AND A COMPLETE MUFFLING OF ALL CRITICISMS BY PERONISTS OF OTHER PERONIST LEADERS OR PERONIST ACTIONS (SEPTEL). IT APPEARS THAT PERON HAS INDEED THROWN DOWN THE GAUNTLET AND OPEN WARFARE WITH THE LEFTISTS WILL BEGIN IN EARNEST.

LODGE

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